

Message Text

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USIAC

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: AGENCY REVIEW OF FY 78 CP

REF: USIA 21874,

IN ACCORDANCE WITH REFTTEL, POST PROPOSES FOLLOWING CP
REVISIONS:

1. PROGRAM RATIONALE (ADD AFTER PARAGRAPH 2 OF
POST'S SUBMISSION OF 4/29/77):

HOWEVER, MANY MALTESE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE GRADUAL
WEAKENING OF THE TRADITIONAL TIES WITH EUROPE WHICH HAVE
BROUGHT MALTA A REASONABLY HIGH STANDARD OF LIVING AND
A PARTICIPATION IN THE INTELLECTUAL, CULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS
LIFE OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION. THOSE WHO ARE CONCERNED
INCLUDE INFLUENTIAL FIGURES IN JOURNALISM, THE CHURCH,
THE UNIVERSITY, CIVIL SERVICE, AND THE NATIONALIST PARTY,
AND EVEN CERTAIN TRADE UNION LEADERS. MOREOVER, IF
ECONOMIC BENEFITS EXPECTED TO FLOW FROM MALTA'S NEW
FRIENDS DO NOT MATERIALIZE, EVEN MALTA LABOR PARTY
STALWARTS CURRENTLY CHAMPIONING THESE NEW FRIENDSHIPS
MIGHT BE PERSUADED THAT THEIR OLD AND LESS-VOGUEISH
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RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE WEST ARE BETTER FOR MALTA AFTER ALL.

IT IS, THEREFORE, THE TASK OF USIS IN MALTA TO PROMOTE,
PRESERVE AND STRENGTHEN THE IDEA THAT MALTA'S INTERESTS
ARE BEST SERVED BY CONTINUING TO PLACE PRIMARY IMPORTANCE
ON ITS LINKS WITH THE WEST. THE POST'S TASK IS TO
DEMONSTRATE ON A CONTINUING BASIS THE COMPATIBILITY OF

UNITED STATES FOREIGN POLICY WITH MALTA'S OWN DEMOCRATIC AND HUMANITARIAN GOALS AND ASPIRATIONS. THE POST SHOULD POINT OUT DISCREETELY THAT EVEN THOUGH MALTA SEES HER PRESENT ORIENTATION AS ONE OF NEUTRALITY AND NON-ALIGNMENT, ITS TERRITORY AND DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS STILL BENEFIT FROM THE PROTECTION WHICH ALL OF WESTERN EUROPE RECEIVES BECAUSE CERTAIN SISTER DEMOCRACIES CHOSE TO COOPERATE IN FORMING AND MAINTAINING NATO.

IN ADDITION, IT IS THE TASK OF USIS MALTA TO CONVEY INCREASED KNOWLEDGE OF AMERICAN CULTURE, SOCIETY AND INSTITUTIONS, WITH A VIEW TO ENHANCING AN APPRECIATION OF THE LONG TERM COMMON TRADITIONS AND ASPIRATIONS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES. AMONG SUCH TOPICS WHICH SHOULD BE TREATED BY USIS ARE HUMAN RIGHTS, RULE OF LAW, FREE ENTERPRISE ECONOMIC SYSTEM, INDEPENDENT TRADE UNIONS AND EDUCATION.

2. OBJECTIVE II:

CONVEY TO MALTESE LEADERS AND OPINION-MOLDERS A KNOWLEDGE OF THOSE ASPECTS OF AMERICAN CULTURE WHICH WOULD TEND TO REINFORCE AN APPRECIATION OF THE SHARED VALUES AND ASPIRATIONS OF THE MALTESE AND AMERICAN PEOPLE. AMONG THE MORE SIGNIFICANT OF THESE ASPECTS OF AMERICAN CULTURE ARE:

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A. FREEDOM OF AND RESPECT FOR THE INDIVIDUAL (HUMAN RIGHTS);

B. RULE OF LAW;

C. FREE ELECTIONS AND A GOVERNMENT RESPONSIVE TO THE PEOPLE;

D. PRACTICAL APPROACH TO PROBLEMS, NOTABLY IN THE FIELDS OF PRIVATE BUSINESS AND INDEPENDENT LABOR UNIONS;

E. FREE AND AGGRESSIVE PRESS;

F. COMMITMENT TO FREE UNIVERSAL EDUCATION.

3. PROJECT MA-4:

ONE PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR TO TALK TO UNIVERSITY-LEVEL STUDENTS AND PROFESSORS, MINISTRY OF EDUCATION OFFICIALS, TEACHERS AND OFFICIALS OF TEACHERS' UNIONS ON EDUCATION IN THE UNITED STATES, PARTICULARLY TEACHER TRAINING AND OTHER ASPECTS OF UNIVERSITY EDUCATION. MALTA IS CURRENTLY UNDERGOING EDUCATIONAL REFORM AND IS LOOKING TO OTHER COUNTRIES, NOTABLY THE UNITED STATES, FOR IDEAS. TALKS

COVERING SUCH TOPICS AS THE AMERICAN MODULAR SYSTEM OF UNIVERSITY EDUCATIONS, NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN TEACHER TRAINING AND RESEARCH FINDINGS IN EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY WOULD BE USEFUL TO MALTA AND WOULD SERVE AS A REMAINDER TO MALTESE OF THE ADVANTAGE OF CONTINUED CLOSE TIES TO WESTERN DEMOCRATIC COUNTRIES. MENTION OF AMERICAN EFFORTS TO PROVIDE QUALITY EDUCATION FOR MINORITY GROUPS AND HANDICAPPED PERSONS WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO AN OVERALL POSITIVE MESSAGE ON AMERICAN SOCIETY, EDUCATION AND POLITICAL SYSTEM. RADDAY

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